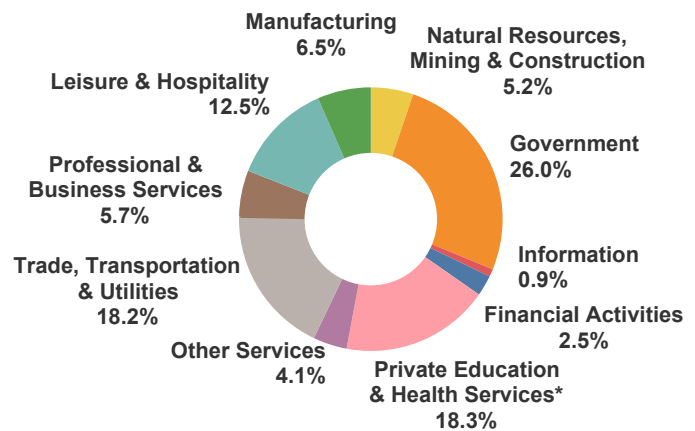## North Country Jobs

» In August 2023, there were 110,900 private sector jobs and 149,900 nonfarm (private + government) jobs in the region.

» Four industry sectors make up 75% of total nonfarm jobs:

Government	39,000
Private Education & Health Services*	27,400
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	27,300
Leisure & Hospitality	18,700

Job Gains

» The region gained 500 nonfarm jobs, including 300 private sector jobs and 200 government jobs, over the past year.

» 700 of the recent job gains occurred in natural resources, mining & construction and leisure & hospitality.
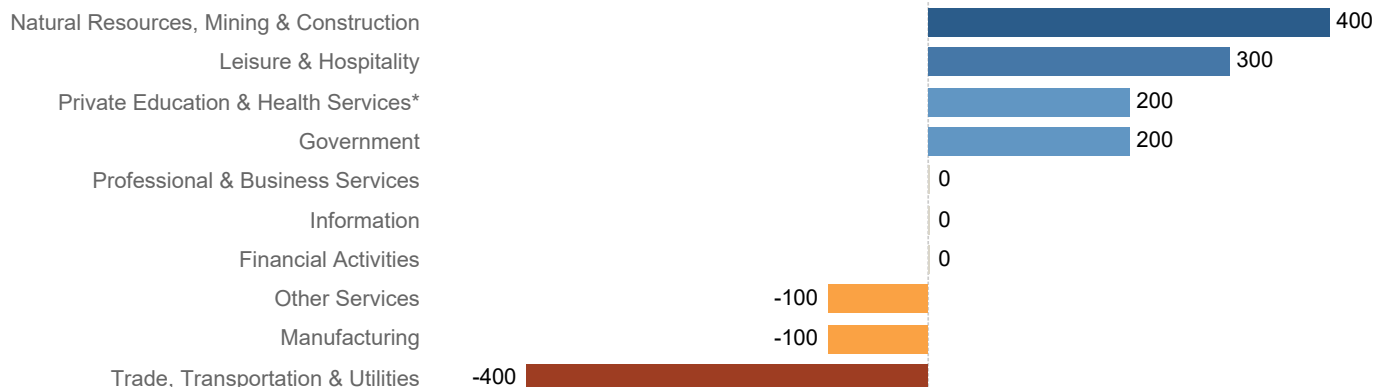
The region's most significant industry is Government

Regional Industry Mix, August 2023

- Manufacturing 6.5%
- Natural Resources, Mining & Construction 5.2%
- Leisure & Hospitality 12.5%
- Government 26.0%
- Professional & Business Services 5.7%
- Information 0.9%
- Trade, Transportation & Utilities 18.2%
- Financial Activities 2.5%
- Other Services 4.1%
- Private Education & Health Services* 18.3%

Private sector employment increased by 0.3% over the past year

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, August 2023

	August 2023	Net Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	149,900	500	0.3%
Total Private	110,900	300	0.3%
Government	39,000	200	0.5%

Most job gains have occurred in Natural Resources, Mining & Construction

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, August 2023

Industry	Change
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	400
Leisure & Hospitality	300
Private Education & Health Services*	200
Government	200
Professional & Business Services	0
Information	0
Financial Activities	0
Other Services	-100
Manufacturing	-100
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-400

*Private education & health services is in the private sector. Government includes public education and public health services.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate in the North Country decreased over the past year

Unemployment Rate by Place, August 2023

>> All of the largest labor market areas in the North Country region had unemployment rates below the State's unemployment rate in July 2023.
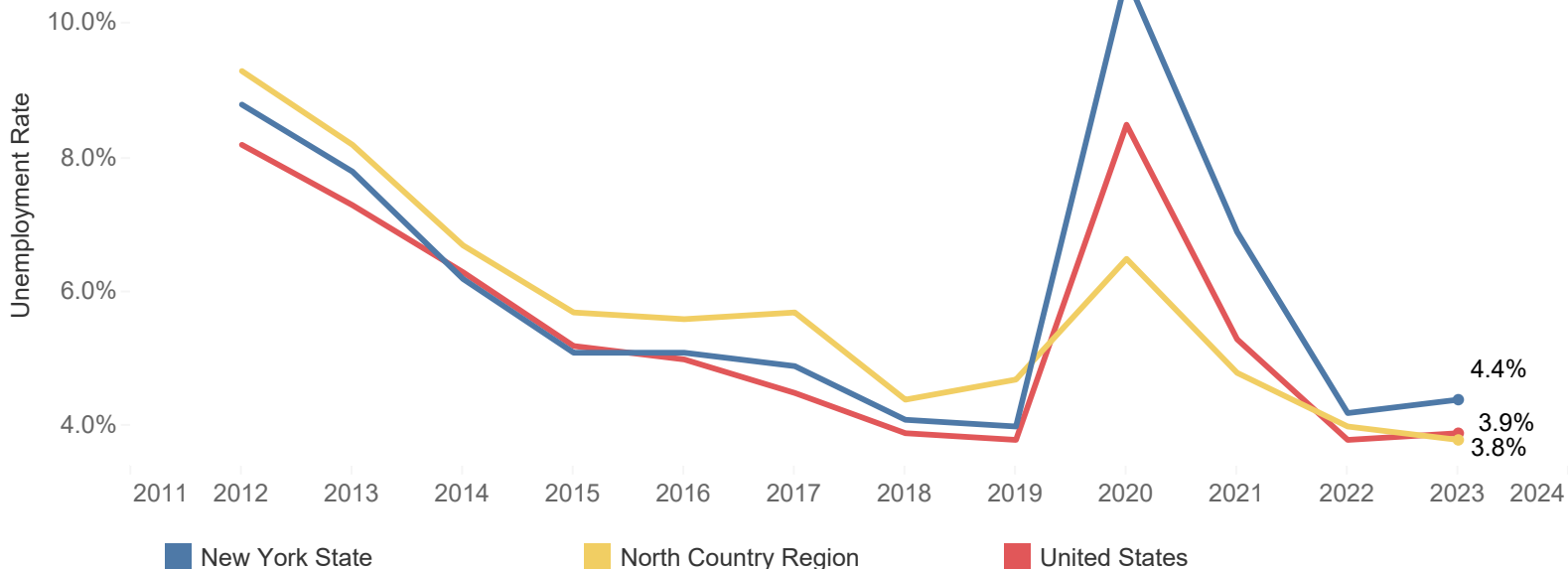
>> The region's unemployment rate (3.8%) is less than the State's unemployment rate (4.4%) by 0.6 percentage points.

Place	Unemployment Rate (%)
Watertown City	4.0
North Country Region	3.8
New York State	4.4

Unemployment Rate (%)

Unemployment Rates(Not Seasonally Adjusted), 2013-2023
North Country, New York State, United States

August Unemployment Rates, 2012 to 2023

New York State — 4.4%
North Country Region — 3.9%
United States — 3.8%

Legend: New York State, North Country Region, United States

Employment

North Country employment increased over the past year

Regional and Metro Area Labor Force Data

	Employment		Unemployment		Unemployment Rate	
	August 2022	August 2023	August 2022	August 2023	August 2022	August 2023
North Country Region	163,900	166,400	6,900	6,600	4.0%	3.8%
Clinton County	33,400	33,600	1,300	1,200	3.9%	3.5%
Essex County	16,600	17,100	600	600	3.3%	3.2%
Franklin County	18,100	18,200	700	700	3.7%	3.6%
Hamilton County	2,300	2,400	100	100	2.9%	3.3%
Jefferson County	43,600	44,200	1,800	1,800	4.0%	3.8%
Lewis County	11,100	11,400	400	400	3.7%	3.6%
St. Lawrence County	38,800	39,500	1,900	1,900	4.8%	4.5%
Watertown-Fort Drum Metro Area	43,600	44,200	1,800	1,800	4.0%	3.8%
Watertown City	10,300	10,400	500	400	4.5%	4.0%
New York State	9,263,400	9,398,400	410,000	431,600	4.2%	4.4%
United States	158,714,000	161,427,000	6,256,000	6,623,000	3.8%	3.9%

Initial claims decreased in August 2023

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region
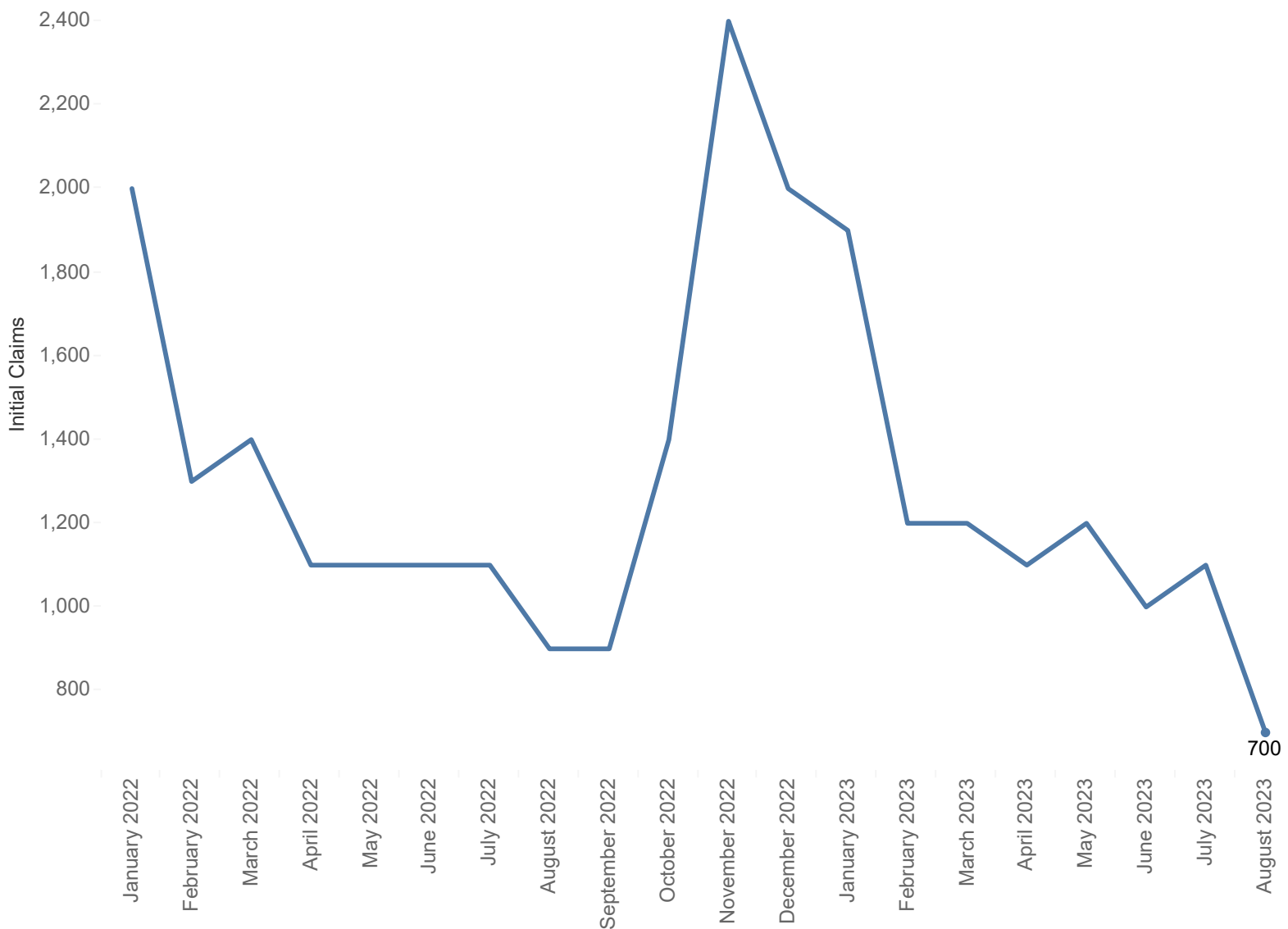
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Unemployment Insurance

Initial claims decreased in Lewis county over the year
Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

County	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Clinton	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Essex	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Franklin	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Hamilton	-	-	-		
Jefferson	200	300	200	0	0.0%
Lewis	0	100	100	-100	-100.0%
St. Lawrence	200	300	200	0	0.0%
North Country	700	1,100	900	-200	-22.2%
New York State	60,000	76,200	64,800	-4,300	-6.2%

Initial claims decreased in government and natural resources, mining & construction over the year
Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

Industry	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Financial Activities	0	0	0	0	
Government	0	100	100	-100	-100.0%
Information	-	-	-		
Leisure & Hospitality	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	100	200	200	-100	-50.0%
Other Services	0	0	0	0	
Private Education & Health Services	100	200	100	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	200	100	0	0.0%
Unclassified	100	100	100	0	0.0%

Note: Initial claims data include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs). Details may not add to total due to rounding. A "-" indicates data are not releasable due to confidentiality requirements.

Unemployment Insurance

The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries increased in Essex and Lewis county over the year
UI Beneficiaries by County, North Country Region, All Programs*

County	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	Net Change	% Change
Clinton	500	500	500	0	0.0%
Essex	200	200	100	100	100.0%
Franklin	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Hamilton					
Jefferson	700	700	700	0	0.0%
Lewis	200	200	100	100	100.0%
St. Lawrence	700	700	700	0	0.0%
North Country	2,400	2,500	2,300	100	4.3%
New York State	178,100	172,700	136,900	41,200	30.1%

Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs)
Details may not add to total due to rounding

The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries was unchanged in all industries over the year
UI Beneficiaries by Industry, North Country Region, All Programs*

Industry	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	Net Change	% Change
Financial Activities					
Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Information					
Leisure & Hospitality	400	400	400	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	300	400	300	0	0.0%
Other Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Private Education & Health Services	400	400	400	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	400	400	0	0.0%
Unclassified					
North Country	2,400	2,500	2,300	100	4.3%

Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance
Details may not add to total due to rounding

Unemployment Insurance

The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries increased
UI Beneficiaries by Race/Ethnicity, North Country Region, All Programs

	August 2023	August 2022	August 2023					August 2022				
			White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	Unknown	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	Unknown
North Country	2,400	2,300	83%	3%	1%	3%	9%	84%	3%	1%	3%	8%
Clinton	500	500	85%	4%	2%	2%	6%	84%	4%	2%	2%	8%
Essex	200	100	88%			6%	6%	92%				8%
Franklin	200	200	65%			5%	30%	72%	6%			22%
Hamilton			100%					100%				
Jefferson	700	700	79%	6%	1%	6%	9%	79%	6%	2%	8%	6%
Lewis	200	100	93%				7%	93%				7%
St. Lawrence	700	700	87%	1%	1%	3%	7%	88%	1%	1%	1%	7%

Note: Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs). Race/ethnicity is self-reported.
Unknown includes American Indian, Hawaiian Native and Unknown
*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population
Details may not add to total due to rounding

Demographics

The North Country's population is decreasing and has become more diverse
Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020

| Geography	Population				2010 Population Breakdown				2020 Population Breakdown			
	2010	2020	Net Change	% Change	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic
Clinton	82,128	79,843	-2,285	-2.8%	91.1%	3.6%	1.1%	2.5%	86.7%	3.4%	1.2%	3.6%
Essex	39,370	37,381	-1,989	-5.1%	92.9%	2.5%	0.7%	2.5%	90.2%	1.6%	0.6%	2.6%
Franklin	51,599	47,555	-4,044	-7.8%	82.6%	5.5%	0.4%	2.9%	81.1%	3.5%	0.4%	2.9%
Hamilton	4,836	5,107	271	5.6%	96.4%	0.7%	0.5%	1.1%	93.4%	0.6%	0.2%	2.0%
Jefferson	116,229	116,721	492	0.4%	85.8%	4.7%	1.3%	5.3%	79.5%	5.4%	1.9%	6.8%
Lewis	27,087	26,582	-505	-1.9%	96.8%	0.6%	0.3%	1.3%	93.8%	0.4%	0.2%	1.7%
St. Lawrence	111,944	108,505	-3,439	-3.1%	92.9%	2.0%	1.0%	1.9%	89.0%	2.6%	1.0%	2.6%
North Country	433,193	421,694	-11,499	-2.7%	89.7%	3.4%	0.9%	3.1%	85.5%	3.4%	1.1%	3.9%

*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population
Does not include all racial/ethnic categories

The North Country has become more diverse
Distribution of North Country Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020

North Country's Diversity Index increased by 37% from 2010 to 2020
US Census Bureau Diversity Index Scores, 2010 and 2020

Race/Ethnicity
- Other/Unknown
- Asian*
- Hispanic
- Black*
- White*
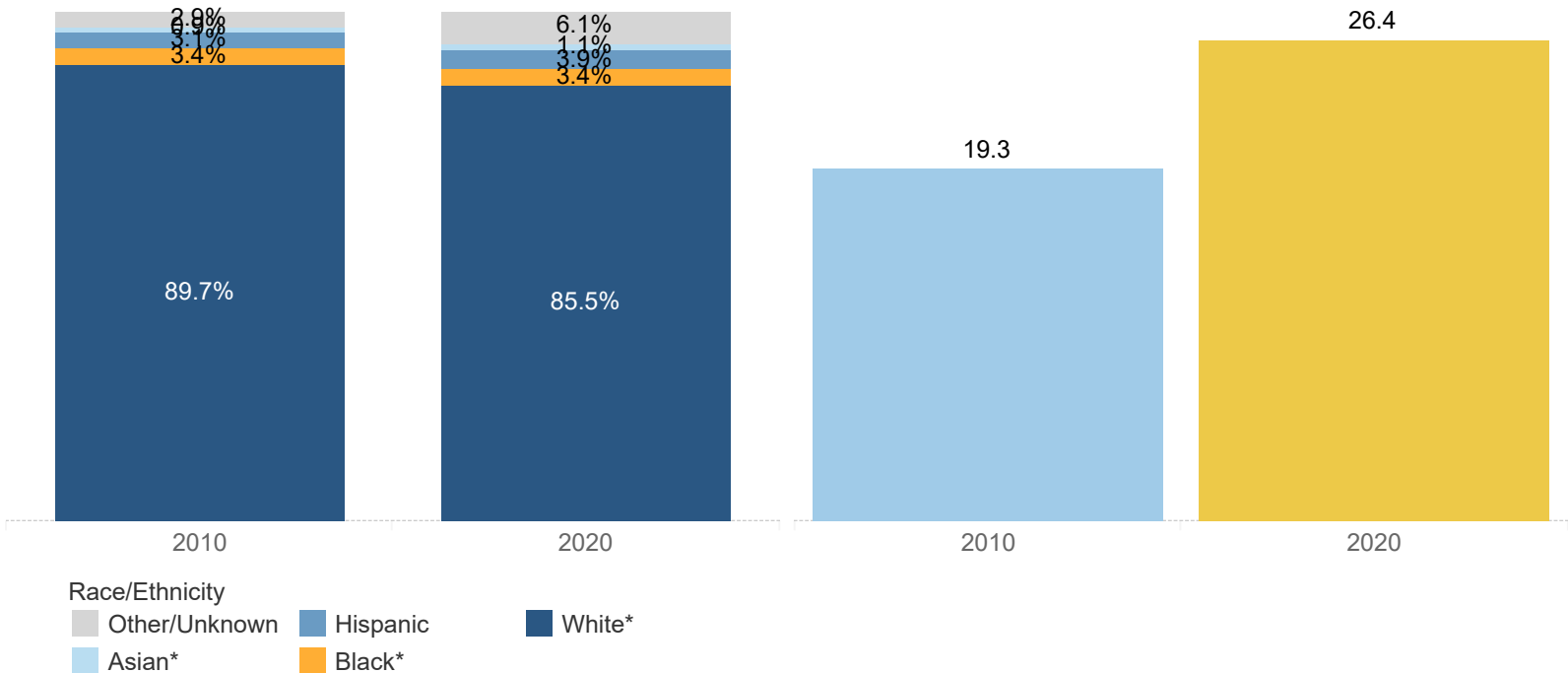
*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population
Does not include all racial/ethnic categories
Source: Population Estimates Program-Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin; July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2020

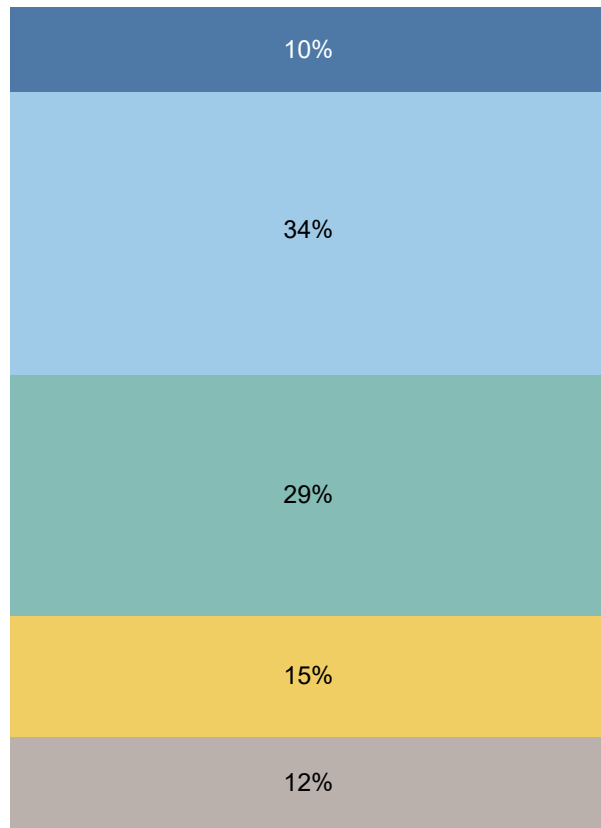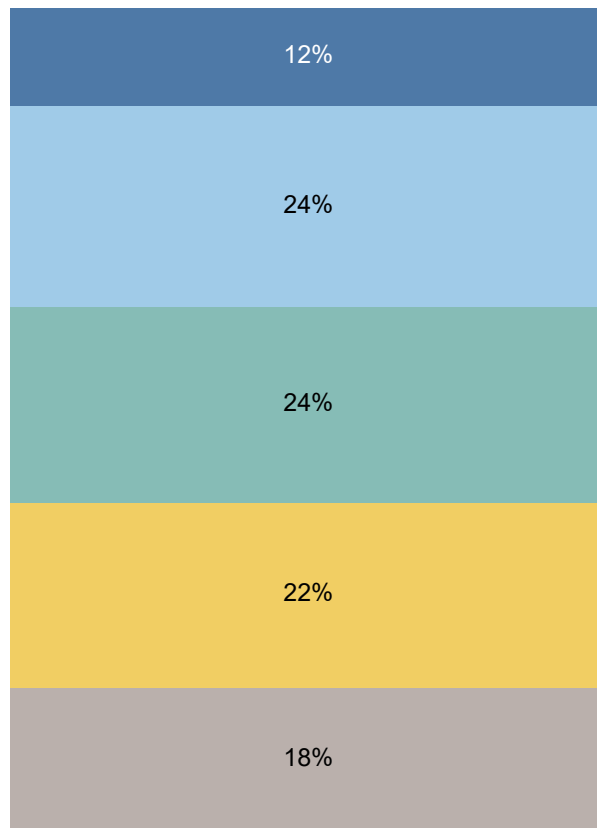**On average, educational attainment in the North Country is lower than New York State**

Distribution of Population 25 years and over by Educational Attainment, 2021

North Country
- 10%
- 34%
- 29%
- 15%
- 12%

New York State
- 12%
- 24%
- 24%
- 22%
- 18%

Source: American Community Survey 2021 One-Year Estimates, Table B15002

- Less Than High School
- High School Diploma
- Some College/Associate's
- Bachelor's Degree
- Higher Than Bachelor's

The North Country is in line with New York State as a whole
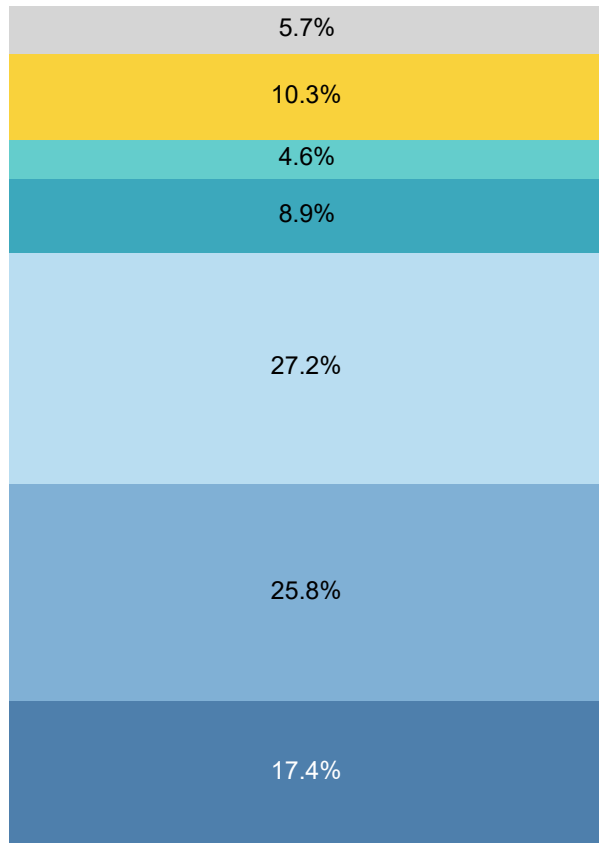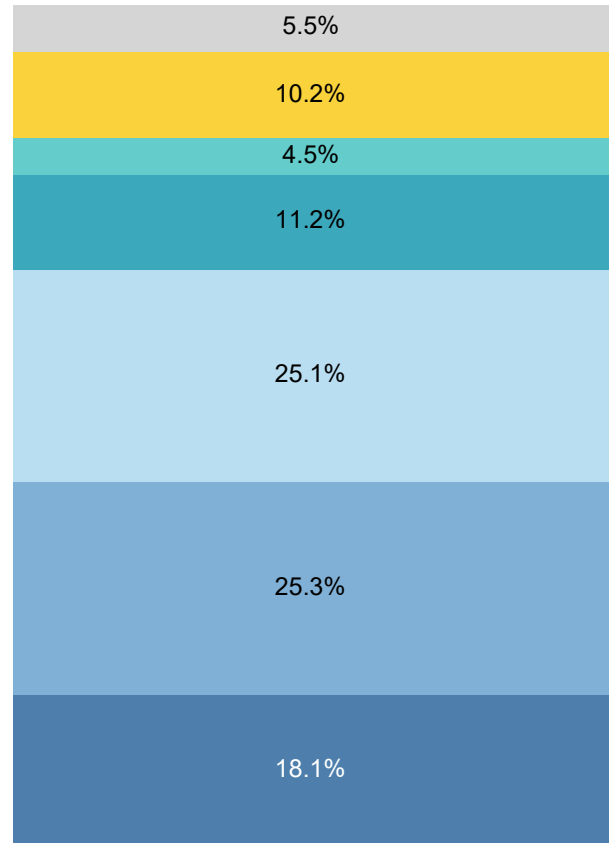Distribution of Population by Age Group, 2020

	New York State	North Country
Under 5 Years	5.7%	5.5%
5 to 13 Years	10.3%	10.2%
14 to 17 Years	4.6%	4.5%
18 to 24 Years	8.9%	11.2%
25 to 44 Years	27.2%	25.1%
45 to 64 Years	25.8%	25.3%
65 Years and Over	17.4%	18.1%

Source: Population Estimates Program-Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin; July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2020

Legend:
- Under 5 Years
- 5 to 13 Years
- 14 to 17 Years
- 18 to 24 Years
- 25 to 44 Years
- 45 to 64 Years
- 65 Years and Over

More than half of businesses in the North Country have fewer than 5 employees
Number of Firms and Average Monthly Employment, Private Employment

Number of Employees	Firms				Employment			
	Number		% of Total		Number		% of Total	
	2018	2023	2018	2023	2018	2023	2018	2023
1-4*	3,510	3,410	53.5%	52.8%	7,240	6,940	7.1%	6.9%
5-9	1,330	1,320	20.3%	20.4%	8,850	8,670	8.6%	8.6%
10-19	810	880	12.3%	13.6%	11,020	12,020	10.7%	11.9%
20-49	580	530	8.8%	8.2%	17,390	15,820	16.9%	15.6%
50-99	170	170	2.6%	2.6%	11,350	11,490	11.1%	11.4%
100-249	100	100	1.5%	1.5%	15,270	14,170	14.9%	14.0%
250-499	30	30	0.5%	0.5%	10,570	10,880	10.3%	10.8%
500-999	20	10	0.3%	0.2%	9,850	8,560	9.6%	8.5%
1000+	10	10	0.2%	0.2%	11,110	12,540	10.8%	12.4%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2018 Q1 and 2023 Q1
*Size class 1-4 includes firms that have average employment that is >0 but <1

Regional Labor Market Developments

Good news

Hale Transportation plans a major expansion at its garage in Watertown (Jefferson County). The company purchased the location from financially ailing Freeman Bus earlier in the year, helping to preserve 35 jobs. According to the Watertown Daily Times, the project valued at more than $1.6 million will include a 5,000-square-foot building expansion for the company's vehicle repair business.

Update: US Foods Holding Corp., the new owner of Renzi Foodservice, has started expansion work on newly acquired 110,000-square-foot facilities in Watertown. The expansion, expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2024, will provide 10,000 square feet of additional loading dock space to boost its fleet logistics and support the company's growing customer base in New York State's North Country region. Renzi Foodservice employs around 300 people and continues to hire while the expansion project is in progress.

Adirondack Canoe Company (ACC) recently opened a high-end canoe retail shop in downtown Port Henry (Essex County). The company, in partnership with Essex Industries, manufactures the canoes at a production facility in Mineville (Essex County). The business partnership serves as the vocation component to Mountain Lake Services that brings people with developmental disabilities together with non-disabled workers to build the canoes. According to Director of Operations at the Essex Industries and ACC, part of Essex Industries' mission is to create job-ready people who have learned and mastered skills that can be utilized outside of the business.

North Country Region

Includes Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis and Saint Lawrence counties

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